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Sov

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Sov	
Type	analytic
Alignment	direct
Head direction	initial
Tonal	No
Declensions	No
Conjugations	No
Genders	no
Nouns decline according to...	
Case	**Number**
Definiteness	**Gender**
Verbs conjugate according to...	
Voice	**Mood**
Person	**Number**
Tense	**Aspect**
Meta-information	
Creator	H6116G

Sov (en: Language of you; tok: Sinapu) is a minimalist conlang created in May 2024 with now 3 base words and 1 basic grammar point. The language is inspired by NSM Theory by Wierzbicka, Toki Pona, Tuki Tiki by ka Tumu, English and Chinese, supposed to express ideas of most words in NSM and Toki Pona.

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Phonology

Consonants

	Bilabial	Alveolar
Nasal		(n)
Plosive	p	
Fricative		s

Vowels

	Front	Back
High	(i)	(u)
Low	a	

Phonotactics

There are 3 variants in this language, but written the same. The valid syllables in each variant for each letter are as follows.

Letter	o	v	s
Original	a	pa	sa
Vowel	a	u	i
Dual	na	pu	si

Mix of the syllables from different variants are not allowed. Speakers must **stick to one** during a whole sentence. Adjacent vowels are always read **separately**.

Allophones

This language allows a wide range of allophones, but may vary by its variants. You can read the sounds as follows if you find it hard to get the accurate pronunciations.

- **p** could be **any plosive**, like /p/ /t/ /k/ /b/ /d/ or /g/.
- **n** could be of **any other** single consonant series, like /m/ /n/ /l/ /r/ or /j/, just **not** to be a **fricative**. Babies could say /m/ instead as in the word "mama".
- **s** could be **any fricative**, like /f/ /v/ /s/ /z/ /ʃ/ /ʒ/ /θ/ /ð/ or /h/.
- **i** could be any vowel that opens your mouth **narrower than** /**ə**/ (the sound in English word "a") and moves your tongue **more ahead** of in /**ə**/, like /e/ /ɪ/ /i/ /ɨ/ or /y/.
- **u** could be any vowel that opens your mouth **narrower than** /**ə**/ and moves your tongue **less ahead** of in /**ə**/, like /o/ /ʊ/ /u/ /ʉ/ or /ɯ/.
- **a** could be any vowel that opens your mouth **wider than** /**ə**/, like /ɑ/ /a/ /æ/ /ʌ/ or /ɛ/, **except the original** variant.
- **a** could only be /**ə**/ instead in the **original variant**.

You could choose any language you know with nearby sounds in a translator or TTS platform and **enter the sounds of one chosen variant** to do some listening exercise. If using a language with an alphabet other than English, you can first find somewhere to change the letters into theirs (e.g. type "Romaji to Hiragana" and search when using Japanese) and copy the latter to create a better speech.

Writing System

The alphabet is "**o v s**", and the letters also work as symbolic characters.

A Braille pattern of the language consists of 3 dots, from top to bottom. The top dot T denotes whether the character is a punctuation, blank for a punctuation and dotted for a letter. The middle M and bottom B denote the specific character. The pattern for each character is described as follows:

- Dot T: **o**
- Dots T and M: **v**
- Dots T and B: **s**
- All dots: (sign before a capital letter), or question mark "?"
- Dot M: comma ","
- Dot B: period "."
- Dot M and B: colon ":"
- No dots: (space)

A cell of the standard Braille consists of 2 columns, holding 2 characters from left to right. The rules above apply to both columns of the cell.

The machine code works similarly. Each 3 digits of binary code denote information of dots top to bottom from left to right, 0 for the blank and 1 for the dotted.

Grammar

- This language uses prepositional phrases to connect all content words. Each preposition precedes its content word except the first word in a sentence (no prepositions attached to it).
- No spaces are needed in this language.
- Thus all the content words are of the same part of speech - nouns, and only "preposition + noun" structure is involved in this language.
- Just raise your voice at the end for a yes-no question. Say "**v**" for sure, and "**o**" for not.
- We suggest you break clauses into more but simpler sentences.
- **Paraphrase translation in the source language is always preferred** to loanwords, due to the quite limited sounds of the language that might lead to a huge gap in sound between a loanword and its source word. If you have to, the word should be translated into syllables of **the same variant of this language as its context** only.

- Interjections are translated based on their sentiments, "**v**" for positive, "**o**" for negative and "**s**" (just said something) for neutral.
- The syllables could also be used to denote unknowns, variables or geometric points like "**a b c**", "**O A B**" in mathematics.

Lexicon

Definitions below in bold are original meanings and forms of base words, and others of the two could be associated or metaphorized from the origins. The phrase **ss** (lit. "Group B") could be ahead of a base word as follows to specify its meaning more accurately, especially in a single-word sentence.

- **o**: **opposite**, no; **by**, from
- **(ss)o**: **time**, day; **gas**, energy, view
- **v**: **exist**, belong to, start, move, **to**
- **(ss)v**: **the**, (this/that, these/those); **high**, good, value, head
- **s**: **word**, sound, language; **liquid**, water; **same**, similar, be the same with, group; **in**, of

The word **v** is kind of like the word "so" in English with various meanings.

Example text

You can use the sentences below when meeting difficulties in learning the language. Imagine meeting a sentence new to you and you say...

svvvvss(ovso).
lit.: (A) telling to this to existence in speaking ("me") (from existence in (the) opposite) ("you").
en: What does this say?
svvvvsssSov.
lit.: (A) telling to this to me in Sov.
en: What's this in Sov?
Note: The Sov here is the name of the language.
vsssv?
lit.: Existence of saying of this?
en: Is this saying right?

Then you can say...

vsSovvvsvsssosv.
lit.: Existence of Sov in (the) head of existence in speaking at time of this.
en: Now I learned Sov.
vvvso!
lit.: (Hope of) fine to the existence in (the) opposite! / You (are) kind! / You (are) great (being here)!
en: Hi! / Bye! / Thanks! / Welcome! / Please! / You are welcome!
Note: This is a greeting in Sov for most situations.
osvvvss!
lit.: Negation of good to me!
en: Sorry! / Excuse me!
osvsvvvss.
lit.: Negation of good at it to me! / I (am) bad with it.
en: I can't do it. / I don't need it. / I don't want (to do) it. / I won't do it. / I don't like it.
Note: This is a tactic to replace modal verbs.
vsosv.
lit.: Good at time of this (only).
en: It doesn't matter.
ssAvvss. vsvssoososs sSsvsoso.
lit.: Calling of A (to) me. Start of me from opposition of gas ("solid, place") in speaking in (the) grouping of (the) heads of the places.
en: My name is A. I come from an English-speaking country.
Note: The "Ssvsoso" here is a literal translation of "(the) United Kingdom".

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breezewiki

BreezeWiki source code

Documentation and more information

Chat / Bug reports / Feature requests

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